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Contemporary Philippine Arts from the Region
Lesson 10: Local Materials Used in Creating Art

What's New

The following are pictures of places familiar to most Filipinos as these abound in the different regions of the country, answer the questions after a moment of pondering.

What is this place/location? **Seashore**	
Describe what you can see in this place/location. **In this place/location, I can see a body of water, sand, rocks, and trees such as coconut trees**	
What materials can be acquired from this place/location? **When you go to the seashore, you can collect different materials like sand, gravel, stones, and shells. You can also find other interesting things like seaweed, driftwood, or small pieces of coral.**	

	What is this place/location? **rice fields**
	Describe what you can see in this place/location. **This place has a lot of rice fields with irrigation canals or dikes. The rice fields are very green and stretch out far. Farmers can be seen working in the fields to take care of the plants or harvest the rice when it's ready.**
	What materials can be acquired from this place/location? **Materials like rice grains, straw, and other plant materials that can be used for weaving or handicrafts can be acquired from here. Additionally, the rice paddies can be a source of fish, frogs, or other aquatic life that thrive in the stagnant water.**

What is this place/location? **Forest**	
Describe what you can see in this place/location. **In this place/location, I can see tall trees with thick foliage, plants, and bushes that grow on the forest floor. There may be animals like birds, squirrels, or deer that live in the forest.**	
What materials can be acquired from this place/location? **Tree branches and roots, dried leaves**	

What is this place/location? **Mangrove**	
Describe what you can see in this place/location. **In this place/location, I can see a body of water, sand, rocks, and trees such as coconut trees**	
What materials can be acquired from this place/location? **Mangrove roots and branches**	

What is this place/location? **Garbage dump or site**	
Describe what you can see in this place/location. **This place appears to be a garbage dump or site. There are piles of trash and debris scattered around the area.**	
What materials can be acquired from this place/location? **From this place, one can acquire various materials such as discarded plastics, metals, wood, electronic parts and other materials that can be repurposed for art. With creativity and resourcefulness, these materials can be transformed into unique and meaningful artworks.**	

Processing:

1. Which of the places/locations above are present in your city, town or community?

Rice Fields, forest, garbage dump or site

2. Can these materials be used in creating art? If yes, how can they be used? If no, why?

Yes, the materials can be used in creating art. The seashells, rock, sand, clay, rice stalks, tree branches and roots, dried leaves, and discarded plastic products can be used in various art forms such as sculpture, painting, and collage.

3. How much is cost of the art materials that you have identified in those places/locations in case you want to use them?

The cost of these art materials depend on the availability of the materials in the specific location and the amount needed. In some cases, the materials may be free if they are readily available in the surroundings.

4. Cite difference of costing or pricing for these art materials compared to those found inside bookstores, department stores and specialty stores.

The cost of these art materials is generally lower compared to those found inside bookstores, department stores, and specialty stores. This is because the raw materials are sourced directly from the environment and do not undergo extensive processing and packaging.

5. What is/are the advantage/s and disadvantage/s of using these materials?

The advantages of using these materials include their low cost, availability, and unique natural qualities. However, the disadvantages include the limited availability of some materials, the need to process and prepare the materials before use, and the potential environmental impact of harvesting certain materials.

Activity 1: Checking out Local Art Materials

Your Bedroom • Old t-shirts or clothes that can be cut or torn up for fabric scraps • Colored pencils, markers, or pens • Unused notebooks or sketchbooks • Fabric scraps from old pillows or curtains	Living Room • Old newspapers or magazines that can be used for collages or cut-outs • Buttons, beads, or other small embellishments
Kitchen/Dining Area • Used coffee grounds for staining paper or fabric • Empty egg cartons or fruit crates for sculptural projects • Old plates or cups for mosaic projects	Front Yard • Fallen branches or twigs for sculpture or weaving • Rocks or pebbles for painting or rock art
Back Yard • Fallen leaves for natural dyeing or collages • Grass or other plants for eco-printing • Soil or clay for pottery or sculpture • Empty plastic containers for molding or casting projects	Other parts of the not mentioned • Scrap wood or leftover building materials for assemblage or sculpture projects • Unused or broken furniture for upcycling or repurposing • Old electronics for disassembling and using parts • Old keys, screws, or other hardware for mixed media projects • Broken ceramics or glass for mosaic or sculpture projects • Yarn, thread, and fabric scraps

Based on the list that you have made:

1. Which place of your house has the most amount of potential art materials? Why?

   The other parts of the house not mentioned have the most amount of potential art materials because they are the most versatile in terms of the types of materials that can be found there. For example, old electronics, scraps of wallpaper, and broken jewelry can all be used in a wide variety of art projects.

2. Among the art materials you have listed, which one is the most abundant? What is its source?

   The most abundant art material is likely old magazines and newspapers, which can be found in multiple areas of the house like the living room and other parts of the house not mentioned.

3. Cite the art materials that you can use together in creating an artwork.

Natural materials such as leaves and flowers are versatile for use in mixed media projects. When creating a collage, consider using these organic materials as well as embellishments like buttons and beads. In addition to these materials, you can also incorporate found objects into your artwork. For instance, empty cans or containers can be painted or transformed into sculptures by combining them with scrap wood or other building materials.

Activity 2: Checking out Local Art Materials

Answers:

1. From the list of available local art materials, the following items can be readily and freely used without any hassle or concerns from family members:

- Old magazines and newspapers
- Colored pencils, markers, or pens
- Empty cereal boxes or cardboard packaging
- Fallen branches or twigs
- Rocks or pebbles
- Empty cans or containers
- Yarn, thread, and fabric scraps
- Paint and paint brushes

2. With these materials, a mixed media artwork can be created featuring natural elements like branches, rocks, and leaves, combined with painted and collaged elements like magazine cutouts and cardboard packaging.

3.Steps to create the mixed media artwork:

Step 1: Collect natural materials like branches, rocks, and leaves from the front or back yard.
Step 2: Paint empty cans or containers with acrylic paint and set aside to dry.
Step 3: Cut out interesting shapes or patterns from old magazines and newspapers.
Step 4: Arrange the natural and painted elements on a canvas or sheet of paper in a visually pleasing way.
Step 5: Glue the magazine cutouts onto the canvas or paper to add more texture and interest.
Step 6: Use yarn, fabric scraps, or paint to add more details or accents to the artwork.
Step 7: Display the finished mixed media artwork in a prominent location in the house.

Give your understanding of the following terms with reference to choosing local art materials used in creating artworks:

1. Para-paraan - This refers to resourcefulness or finding a way to make things work despite the limitations or challenges.
2. Diskarte - This refers to employing strategies or techniques to achieve a goal or solve a problem.
3. Swak na swak - This refers to using something that perfectly fits the purpose or situation.
4. Talentado - This refers to someone who has innate skills or aptitude for something, such as art.
5. Bihasa - This refers to someone who is skilled or proficient in a certain field, such as art.